

*AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT*

Replace the Abstract with:

An elevator group control apparatus ~~is provided that~~ collectively controls an elevator system where ~~a plurality of~~ at least two cars can travel in each shaft independently of each other. ~~It~~ The apparatus has a destination floor registration device ~~which is~~ installed at each hall ~~to allow for~~ passengers to register destination floors and ~~to~~ indicate to passengers which cars will serve respectively for the ~~registered~~ destination floors. ~~It further comprises; zone setting means for setting priority~~ Priority zones and a shared zone ~~to the~~ for upper cars and ~~the~~ for lower cars ~~are set~~; ~~entrance~~ a judgment ~~means for judging is made as to~~ whether the shared zone set ~~by the zone setting means is allowed to~~ can be entered by an upper or lower car; ~~safety standby means for putting the~~ a car ~~is put~~ on standby based on the judgment ~~result of the entrance judgment means~~; ~~withdrawal means for withdrawing a car is sent~~ to a withdrawal floor, as necessary, after a service is completed ~~by the car~~; ~~assignment candidate selecting means for selecting a~~. A car ~~is selected~~ as a candidate for assignment to a destination call ~~generated at a hall if it is judged~~, according to the destination to be served by each car and the zones set ~~to for~~ each car, ~~so~~ that the car would cause neither collision nor safety stop; and ~~assignment means for finally determining which a car to~~ is assigned based on the selection ~~result of the assignment candidate selecting means~~.